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What is claimed is:

A multistage liquid filter, comprising:
 a chamber having an inlet for liquid flow and an outlet for liquid flow;

a first filter stage within said chamber in fluid communication with said inlet, said first filter stage comprising a material that removes microorganisms;

a second filter stage within said chamber in fluid communication with said outlet, said second filter stage comprising activated carbon; and

said second filter stage being located within said chamber at a position that allows liquid to pass through said first filter stage prior to passing through said second filter stage.

- 2. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 1, further comprising a third filter stage within said chamber, said third filter stage being constructed of a microporous material, said third filter stage being located within said chamber at a position that allows liquid to pass through said third filter stage prior to passing through said second filter stage.
- 3. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 1, wherein said liquid is water.
- 4. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 2, wherein said third filter stage is located within said chamber at a position that allows liquid to pass through said third filter stage after passing through said first filter stage.
- 5. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 2, wherein said third filter stage comprises microfiber glass.
- 6. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 5, wherein said microfiber glass is charge-modified.
 - 7. A multistage filter as recited in alaim 6, wherein said filter

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is connected at the point of use for a water supply.

8. A multistage liquid filter as roof said third filter story A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 2, wherein

- A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 2, wherein 9. said third filter stage comprises a material that selectively removes turbidity-related components, sediment, and some organic materials.
- 10. A multistage filter as recited in claim 2, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.
- 11. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 1, wherein said first filter stage comprises a meltblown web.
- 12. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 1, wherein said first filter stage comprises microfiber glass.
- 13. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 12, wherein said microfiber glass is charge modified.

14. A multistage filter as recited in claim 13, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.

- 15. A multistage filter as recited in claim 1, wherein said first filter stage is a microporous material.
- 16. A multistage filter as recited in claim 2, wherein said third filter stage consists of a bed of granular material.
- 17. A multistage filter as recited in claim 1, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.
- 18. A multistage process for filtering impurities from a liquid, said process comprising the steps of:

supplying liquid to a filter;

removing at least a portion of the microorganisms from said liquid supply in a first filtering step; and

then removing at least a portion of the organics and other nonbiological components in a second filtering step using activated

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carbon.

19. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim
18, wherein said first filtering step is accomplished using a meltblown web.

- 20. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim

 18, wherein said first filtering step is accomplished using a microfiber glass web.
- 21. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim 18, wherein said first filtering step is accomplished using a charge-modified microfiber glass web.
- 22. A multistage process for liquid filtration as recited in claim 21, wherein said filtering steps are conducted at the point of use for a water supply.
- 23. A multistage process for liquid filtration as recited in claim 18, wherein said filtering steps are conducted at the point of use for a water supply.
- 24. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim 18 further comprising a third filtering step that removes sediments and some organics prior in flow to said second filtering step.
- 25. A multistage process for liquid filtration as recited in claim 24, wherein said filtering steps are conducted at the point of use for a water supply.
- 26. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim 24, wherein said third filtering step is accomplished using a microfiber glass web.
- 27. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim 24 wherein said third filtering step occurs before said first filtering step.
- 28. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim 27 wherein said third filtering step occurs after said first filtering step.

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29. A multistage liquid filtration process as recited in claim 18 wherein said liquid is water.

30. \A multistage liquid filter, comprising:

an inlet for liquid flow and an outlet for liquid flow;

a first filter stage in fluid communication with said inlet, said first filter stage comprising a material that removes microorganisms;

a second filter stage in fluid communication with said outlet, said second filter stage comprising activated carbon; and

said second filter stage being located at a position that allows liquid to pass through said first filter stage prior to passing through said second filter stage.

- 31. A multistage filter as recited in claim 30, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.
- 32. A multistage filter as recited in claim 30, wherein said first filter stage is a microporous material.
- 33. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 30, wherein said first filter stage comprises a meltblown web.
- 34. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 30, wherein said first filter stage comprises microfiber glass.
- 35. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 34, wherein said microfiber glass is charge-modified.
- 36. A multistage filter as recited in 35, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.
- 37. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 30, further comprising a third filter stage, said third filter stage being constructed of a microporous material, said third filter stage being located at a position that allows liquid to pass through said third filter stage prior to passing through said second filter stage.
 - 38. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 37, wherein

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said third filter stage is located at a position that allows liquid to pass through said third filter stage after passing through said first filter stage.

- 39. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 37, wherein said third filter stage comprises a meltblown web.
- 40. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 37, wherein said third filter stage comprises microfiber glass.
- 41. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 40, wherein said microfiber glass\is charge-modified.
- 42. A multistage filter as recited in claim 41, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.
- 43. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 37, wherein said third filter stage comprises a material that selectively removes turbidity-related components, sediment, and some organic materials.
- 44. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 37, wherein said third filter stage consists of a bed of granular material.
- 45. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 37, wherein said filter is connected at the point of use for a water supply.
- 46. A multistage liquid fliter as recited in claim 37, wherein said liquid is water.
- 47. A multistage liquid filter as recited in claim 30, wherein said liquid is water.